# Government of Yukon



Yukon Government NEWS release

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**Research Collaboration and Social Licence Highlighted at Energy and Mines Ministers' Conference**

WHITEHORSE - Energy and Mines ministers from across Canada discussed the importance of energy efficiency at the 65th Energy and Mines Ministers' Conference in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Energy, Mines and Resources Minister Brad Cathers said.

"In the long term, improving energy efficiency is the most effective means of dealing with high and volatile energy prices," Cathers said. "In addition to our numerous programs and initiatives to support Yukoners making energy efficient choices, we are working collaboratively with other jurisdictions to support the development of new technology."

Ministers from across Canada recognized the critical importance of energy technologies in enabling Canada to produce, transport and use energy in an environmentally responsible manner while ensuring security and affordability. Ministers also directed inter-jurisdictional collaboration on the development of new energy technologies.

Provincial and territorial ministers addressed key issues relating to the long-term success of the mining sector in Canada. These included First Nation economic participation, skills and capacity development, and the importance of establishing social licence by engaging with communities in a manner that is proactive, inclusive, transparent and mutually respectful.

"Resource companies and governments are increasingly aware of the social and environmental considerations required for mineral development," Cathers said. "Yukon's socio-economic and assessment process is a key part in strengthening the mineral sector in the territory."

Attendees at this year's conference also received presentations on a variety of topics including the global energy market, aboriginal engagement, regulatory process improvement, and energy sector adaptation to climate change.

This year's conference was hosted by the Saskatchewan Energy and Resources Minister, Bill Boyd. The joint communiqué traditionally issued on behalf of all participating jurisdictions has been delayed until after the federal election. The next Energy and Mines Ministers' Conference is scheduled for August 31 to September 2, 2009 in St. John's, Newfoundland.

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